

OCA FILE Sec Misc

DDA 88-1964  
20 September 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence


VIA: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence  
Executive Director

FROM: R. M. Huffstutler  
Deputy Director for Administration


SUBJECT: Art for the New Headquarters Building

REFERENCE: Your Request for Facts Regarding Art for the  
New Headquarters Building

The attached information is in response to your request for facts regarding expenditures for art in our New Headquarters Building. I have also included a copy of the letter to Congressman McDade, who inquired about such expenditures, which was prepared by the Office of Congressional Affairs. We have other background documents and memoranda which we can provide you if you so desire.

  
R. M. Huffstutler

Attachments:  
As stated

ORIG: EXA/DDA 

Distribution:

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BRIEF HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION  
OF FINE ARTS PROGRAM FOR FEDERAL BUILDINGS

In purchasing art for our New Headquarters Building, we are continuing a longstanding U.S. Government tradition of supporting living American artists through the use of their paintings and sculptures in newly constructed federal buildings as outlined in the Guiding Principles for Federal Architecture, the genesis of which can be traced to a 1962 report by the President's Ad Hoc Committee on Federal Office Space. A direct policy order was implemented in January 1963 establishing an allowance for fine arts of one-half of one percent of the estimated cost of construction for new federal buildings. Accordingly, funding of our New Headquarters Building included an allocation of up to \$895,000 for this purpose.

The Agency elected to take a more conservative approach to our needs and voluntarily reduced the amount set aside to a total of \$401,000. We have worked closely with the panel of experts associated with the General Services Administration's (GSA) Art-In-Architecture Program for the expenditure of these funds. This particular program allows us to apply all of the resources to the art, whereas other options would create substantial consultant or overhead costs.

We feel that we are completely in line with the tradition of incorporating fine art into federal building designs and, concomitantly, in supporting living American artists through the effort associated with our new building. To date, we have commissioned, through GSA, Mr. James Sanborn for a work of sculptural art in the amount of \$250,000. Selection of the artist for a second piece is in process.

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505



OCA 88-3013

16 SEP 1988

The Honorable Joseph M. McDade  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. McDade:

The Director has asked me to respond to your letter of 22 August 1988 on behalf of a constituent who is concerned about art commissioned by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) for our new Headquarters Building.

The fine art for the new Headquarters Building is being acquired by the Art in Architecture program of the General Services Administration (GSA). Artwork in public buildings has its historical antecedents in the Work Project Administration (WPA) as a part of President Roosevelt's New Deal program. This tradition of art for public buildings was more recently reinforced by both the Kennedy and Ford Administrations. History often judges a society by its achievements in the arts and for much of this century, the federal government has been an important patron of the arts. GSA's Art in Architecture program follows in this proud tradition.

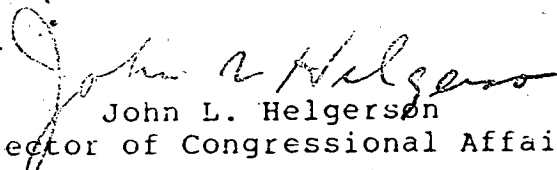
The objective of an art-in-architecture program is to provide federal facilities with works of art as an integral part of the total architectural design concept as deemed appropriate by the project architect. In this case, the works are created by American artists of local, regional or national reputation to enhance the working environment for the building's occupants.

We too share your concern for the prudent expenditure of federal funds. In this regard, GSA commissions artwork only on the recommendation of the architect when it will enhance the design of a new building. According to GSA guidelines

for all federal offices, the expenditure for fine art can be no more than one-half of 1 percent of the overall construction costs. The cost of fine art for the CIA building is well within the GSA guidelines.

Thank you for writing on behalf of your constituent and allowing me the opportunity to discuss our proposed artwork.

Sincerely,

  
John L. Helgerson  
Director of Congressional Affairs

**IMMEDIATE**

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ER 88-3357/1

Executive Secretary

6 SEP 88

Date

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Remarks

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ER 88-3357X

 Executive Secretary  
 26 AUG 88

Date

3637 (10-81)

JOSEPH M. MCDADE

10TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEES:  
APPROPRIATIONS  
SMALL BUSINESS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

Washington, DC 20515

August 22, 1988

FD 88-2257V  
REPLY TO:  
WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
☐ 2370 RAYBURN OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
AREA CODE (202) 225-3731  
DISTRICT OFFICE:  
☐ 514 SCRANTON LIFE BUILDING  
SCRANTON, PA 18503  
(717) 346-3834

The Honorable William H. Webster  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20505



Dear Mr. Webster:

I am enclosing for your review a news article which was brought to my attention by one of my constituents from northeastern Pennsylvania.

The article is, as you will note, very brief, but it does raise some serious questions about the expenditure of \$450,000 by the CIA to commission two works of art. In these times of tight federal budgets and high deficits, it does appear that \$450,000 is a rather excessive price for two works of art.

I would appreciate your verification of the news account and a justification for this type of expenditure so that I can informatively respond to my constituent and any others who raise similar questions.

Your prompt attention to this matter will be greatly appreciated. I look forward to your response.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

JOSEPH M. MCDADE  
Member of Congress

JMM:je  
Enclosure



## Artist turns down \$225,000 for work at CIA headquarters

**KNIGHT-RIDDER NEWSPAPERS**

Matt Mullican recently spent a week fighting his conscience. He lost. The CIA is expanding its headquarters and agreed to commission two works of art. The artists would split \$450,000. The commission would be nearly 10 times Mullican's personal best of \$25,000. He thought it over.

"It's like, when I think CIA, I think guns," he says. "I hate guns. ... I'm no radical lefty. I don't go out and protest. But I don't want to be a part of the CIA. I read. I hear. It's frightening. I don't want to go near the place."